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LONGMAN'S MODERN SERIES

THE

ILLUSTRATED READERS

SECOND BOOK







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AND PARLIAMENT STREET

Longmans' Modern Series



THE  
ILLUSTRATED READERS

SECOND BOOK



REVISED EDITION

(to meet the Requirements of the Code of 1885)

LONDON  
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.  
1885

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# THE ILLUSTRATED READERS.

## *SECOND BOOK.*

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### THE ANCIENT BRITONS.

wav-ing	nei-ther	chim-neys
fruits	o-pen-ing	pro-tect
be-lieve	paint-ed	peo-ple
wolves	cov-er-ed	leath-er

1. A long time ago the country now called England was covered with thick forests. When you look around and see fields waving with yellow corn, and gardens full of fruits and flowers, you will find it hard to believe that the same place was perhaps once a dark forest, with bears and wolves running wild in it.

2. In those days, too, there were neither roads nor bridges, and hardly any corn was grown in the whole country.

3. But it is about the people called Britons—who lived in this land nineteen hundred years ago—that I wish to speak.

4. They were good-looking, and their long dark hair hung loosely about their necks. If they wore any dress at all, it was



made from the skins of wild beasts. Some of them painted their bodies.

5. At first they lived in caves; but, in course of time, they made huts of basket-work—of a round form—somewhat like a bee-hive. These were without windows or chimneys, but an opening was left at the

top through which light and air were let in the room, and smoke got away.

6. The huts were covered over with mud to keep out the wind and rain, and were placed in the middle of woods, or on high hills, where the people could best protect themselves from their foes and wild beasts.

7. A good many huts were put near each other, around which the Britons dug a ditch, and made a wall of the trunks of trees, so as to be safer from harm.

8. They slept upon beds made of grass or heather, which in winter were covered with skins. For food they gathered roots, berries, and acorns. Flocks of sheep and herds of cattle were also kept in some parts, and they added to their stores of meat and clothing by hunting the wild animals with which the woods abounded.

9. The Britons could make a strange kind of boat, which was covered with leather; they also made bows, arrows, and even swords.

**dark forest**: where a large number of trees grew very close together.

**caves**: hollows in the side of a hill or mountain.

**foes**: those who would harm them

**heather**: a small shrub which grows on a heath.

**acorns**: the fruit of the oak-tree.

**trunks**: stems of trees.

**bounded**: were filled.

## THE BOASTING WOLF.



boast-ing  
speak-ing  
an-i-mal  
man-age

nei-ther  
fright-en  
smart-ing  
an-oth-er

cov-ered  
o-ver-come  
hail-stones  
mo-ment

1. A fox was one day speaking to a wolf about the great strength of man.

‘No animal can stand against him,’ he said, ‘unless he uses craft and cunning.’

2. 'Then,' said the wolf, 'I only wish I could see one. I know he should not get away from me; I would never let him go free.'

'I can help you to obtain your wish,' said the fox. 'If you come to me early in the morning I will show you a man.'

3. The wolf took care to be in time, and the fox led him to a hedge, through which he could see the road, along which the fox knew huntsmen would pass during the day.

4. First came by an old man. 'Is that a man?' asked the wolf.

'No!' said the fox; 'not now; he was once.'

Then a little child passed, who was going to school. 'Is that a man?' he asked again.

'No, not yet,' said the fox; 'but he will be by-and-by.'

5. At last a hunter came in sight, with a gun on his arm, and a hunting-knife by his side. 'There!' cried the fox; 'see, here comes a man at last. I will leave him for you to manage; I shall run back to my hole.'

6. The wolf rushed out upon the man at

once, but the hunter was ready for him, though when he saw him he said to himself, 'What a pity my gun is not loaded with ball.'

7. As the animal sprang at him he fired the small shot in his face; but neither the pain nor the noise seemed to frighten the wolf in the least. The hunter fired again; still the wolf, smarting with the pain, made another spring—this time with great fury—but the hunter, quickly drawing his knife from his belt, gave him two or three such stabs that he ran back to the fox all covered with blood.

8. 'Well, brother wolf, have you been able to over-come a man?'

9. 'Oh!' he cried. 'I had not the least idea of a man's strength. First, he took a stick and blew something in my face, which tingled a great deal; and before I could get closer to him he puffed again through his stick, and then came a flash of light, and something struck my nose like hail-stones. I would not give in, but rushed again upon him. In a moment he pulled a white rib out of his body, and gave me such deep cuts with it that I feel I must lie here and die.'

10. 'See, now,' said the fox, 'how foolish it is to boast.'

---

## SUPPOSE.

sup-pose  
pleas-ant-er

joke  
easier

wisest  
what-ever

1. Suppose, my little lady,  
Your doll should break her head,  
Could you make it whole by crying  
Till your eyes and nose were red?
2. And wouldn't it be pleasanter  
To treat it as a joke,  
And say you're glad 'twas Dolly's,  
And not your head, that broke?
3. Suppose your task, my little man,  
Is very hard to get,  
Will it make it any easier  
For you to sit and fret?
4. And isn't it, my boy or girl,  
The wisest, bravest plan,  
Whatever comes, or doesn't come,  
To do the best you can?



## THE COMING SUMMER.

beau-ti-ful	cher-ries	glimp-ses
flow-ers	bus-y	pop-pies
blos-soms	twink-ling	birth-day
to-geth-er	Au-gust	Sep-tem-ber

1. Beautiful things there are coming this way  
Nearer and nearer, dear, every day—  
Yes, closer and closer, my baby.
2. Soft falling showers, and breeze-wafted smells  
Of far-away flowers in far-away dells,  
Are coming in April, my baby.
3. Sly tender blossoms, that clamber along  
Close to the ground till they grow big and  
strong,  
Are coming in May, little baby.
4. Roses and bees and a big yellow moon  
Coming together in beautiful June,  
In lovely mid-summer, my baby.
5. Pretty red cherries, and bright, busy flies,  
Twinkling and turning the fields into skies,  
Will come in July, little baby.
6. Long, still afternoons and light fleecy skies,  
Scarce a leaf stirring, and birdies' soft cries,  
Are coming in August, my baby.

7. Glimpses of blue through the poppies and wheat,  
And one little birthday on fast-flying feet,  
Will come in September, my baby.
- 

## DICTATION EXERCISES.

is                      1.                      his

It is not very often that he sees his father. He is a long way from his home. Is it far from here to the school? It is only a few yards. There is the sea, far off. I can see it through his glass. The sea is rough.

There is the fox that the dogs lost. He escaped safely into a drain-pipe, but the dogs bit off part of his tail. I know where there is another fox. One has his den among the furze on the hill side. He runs into his hole when he sees the dogs coming.

sees                      seas                      seize

It is a dark rough night. The sailor sees only the lights on the ship. The big seas come rolling against the ship as if they were giants trying to seize it and destroy it. The wind rises, and the sailor seizes the helm more firmly as he sees a huge sea come sweeping towards the ship.

## SIR EDWIN LANDSEER.



moth-er  
cop-y  
cur-rant  
pud-ding

ob-jects  
some-thing  
pen-cils  
pon-ies

don-keys  
be-cause  
pic-ture  
move-ments

1. I want to tell you of a little English boy, of whose name and fame when a man you may have heard—Sir Edwin Landseer.

2. When a very young child he used to ask his mother to set him a drawing to copy, and she would sketch a shoe, a currant-pudding, or some other common object.

3. In time he got tired of drawing the same things over and over again, so he asked his father to draw some-thing for him. But his father only gave him a sketch-book and some pencils, and sent him to play with his little friends on a large open common.

4. Here Edwin found plenty of ponies and donkeys which had been sent there to graze. He first tried to draw those that were lying down, because he found that then they were not so hard to draw as when they were moving about.

5. He got on so well with his drawing that when only five years old he drew a little picture of a donkey with a piece of wood tied to its tail.

6. Edwin soon began to paint lions, tigers, dogs, and animals of all kinds. He used to visit all the wild beast shows that came within reach of his home, to watch the move-ments and faces of the beasts.

7. He was very fond of dogs. When he became Sir Edwin Landseer he was once at the house of a lady who wished very much to have a likeness of a pet dog, but the great painter was not well that day, and she did not like to ask him to draw. She, however,

took the dog in her arms into the room where Landseer was, and left pencils and paper on the table. In a short time Sir Edwin took them up, and to the lady's great delight made a very good sketch of the animal.

8. Such was his fondness for animals that he could not bear to see one ill-used. His own horses were trained by acts of kindness. He used to call a lump of sugar his 'whip' for them.

9. Once he was walking down a street in London, and met a man who was selling dogs. He was much pleased to see that none of the dogs had their ears cut. He asked the man the reason why. 'Don't you know that Landseer, the great painter of dogs, says they ought never to be cut, and he will not paint any dogs whose ears are cut?' Landseer told the man that he was speaking to that painter, and they were both glad to have seen each other.

10. Our Queen was very kind to Sir Edwin when his health failed from over-work.

**English boy** : a boy whose  
parents are English.  
**common** : piece of open  
land.  
**sketch** : draw.

**our Queen** : Victoria—  
Queen of England.  
**friends** : playmates.  
**London** : chief city in Eng-  
land.

## THE TRAVELLER AND THE MONKEY.

Eng-lish	rail-way	shil-lings
gen-tle-man	tick-et	win-dow
an-i-mals	re-plied	per-haps
pock-ets	mas-ter	in-sects

1. An English gentle-man had been on a visit to France, and as he was very fond of animals he brought some back with him. Some of these he put into his pockets, and among them was a monkey, which he placed in a large inside breast-pocket.

2. He was taking his railway ticket for London, at the place where he landed, when the monkey thrust out its head. The clerk saw it, and said to its owner, 'You must take a ticket for that dog if it is going with you.' 'Dog!' said the gentle-man; 'it's no dog: it's a



monkey.' 'It is a dog,' replied the clerk. 'It's a monkey,' again said its master, taking it out of his pocket and showing the whole animal.

3. The clerk, however, charged five shillings for a dog ticket. The gentleman felt much vexed at this, and putting his hand into another pocket he brought out a tortoise, and, placing it on the ticket window, said, 'Perhaps you'll call that a dog too!'

4. The clerk looked at it. 'No,' said he, 'we make no charge for those—they are insects.'

**thrust out** : put out.

**owner** : one who belongs to a thing.

**clerk** : the man who sold tickets.

**whole** : all.

**landed** : came on land.

**tortoise** : an animal covered with a hard shell.



## RECEIPT FOR A RACKET.



emp-ty	nurs-e-ry	jol-li-est
trum-pet	shriek	man-age
climb	ter-ri-ble	hap-pen
tum-ble	skur-ry	re-mem-ber

1. What does it take to make a Racket ?  
Two small boys in pants and jacket ;  
An empty room and a bare wood floor ;  
A couple of sticks to bang the door ;  
A chair or two to break and to swing ;  
A trumpet to blow and a bell to ring ;
2. A stamp and a tramp like a great big man,  
And when you can get it, an old tin pan ;



A flight of stairs for a climb and a tumble ;  
A nursery maid to growl and to grumble ;  
A chorus of howl, and cry, and shriek,  
To drown your voice if you try to speak ;

3. A dozen good blows on knees and back,  
Each one coming down with a terrible whack ;  
A couple of falls, rending buttons and thread ;  
And one good bump on the back of your head ;  
A rush and a skurry ; a tear and a clatter ;  
A mamma to cry, ' Now what is the matter ? '
4.                You take these,  
                    And shake these,  
                    And put in a packet,  
And you'll have just the jolliest kind of a Racket !
5. Of course I am bound to confess  
You can manage to make it with less,  
And still have a very good show,  
By the plan which is given below :
6. You can leave out the room and the floor,  
The bumps and the bangs on the door ;  
The bell, and the sticks, and the stairs ;  
The trumpets, the howls, and the chairs ;  
The whack, and the fall, and the rise ;  
The shrieks, and the groans, and the cries ;
7. Mamma, and the pan, and the tramp ;  
The nurse, and the growl, and the stamp ;

But *one* thing you *must* have, however you get it  
(Or else if you don't, you will sadly regret it—  
For remember my words—if you happen to lack it,  
You never can have the least bit of a Racket)—  
And that is, *two small boys in pants and in jacket*.

re<sup>c</sup>ei<sup>p</sup>t : how to make.

Rack<sup>e</sup>t : a noise.

tramp : a tread.

cho<sup>r</sup>us : making a noise  
together.

pants : a kind of trousers.

couple : two.

flight : a number of steps.

dozen : twelve.



## THE EAGLE.



ob-ject  
na-tion  
pic-ture  
en-a-bles

dis-tance  
bright-est  
car-ry-ing  
ea-glets

fol-low-ing  
per-haps  
rot-ten  
lis-ten

1. The Eagle is a bird of prey—that is, it catches animals and birds to eat them. It soars above the object which it wishes to kill, until a good chance arises for the eagle to come down upon it and bear it off to its nest.

2. Owing to its strength it is called ‘the king of birds.’ For just as a king is at the head of a nation, so the eagle is the chief of birds.

3. If you look at an eagle, or the picture of one, you will notice that it has a strong curved bill, hooked and pointed at the end. Its claws are long, hooked, and sharp. It has short, strong feet, and long wings. It has great power of sight, which enables it to see for a long distance, and even to look full at the sun when at its bright-est. Should you try to gaze at the sun when it is mid-day, you would soon find out how much weaker your eyes are than those of the eagle.

4. The eagle, like most other birds, lives in a nest, which is made of sticks, twigs, moss, and rushes. Its nest is built where it is very hard for men to reach, such as the ledge of a high rock or the top of a tall tree.

5. The eagle is not an English bird. It is met with in some parts of Scotland and Ireland, and in some countries over the sea.

6. It feeds on hares, rabbits, small animals and birds; it will sometimes carry away a lamb. Some eagles feed on fish.

7. It flies very quickly and to great heights, even when carrying its prey. Some live to a great age: it is said that a hundred years has been reached by this bird.

8. The young are called *eaglets*, and of these the mother bird is very fond, as the following story will show :—A boy who was bolder than wise, made up his mind to steal two young eagles from their nest, which was built on the side of a rock. To reach the nest he let himself down by a rope, which was made fast at the top of the rock. He had almost got the birds out of the nest, when the old birds, which had been away for food, came back, and with great fury flew at him.

9. The boy saw that the old birds would master him, and perhaps kill him ; so, quick as thought, he threw the eaglets down the cliff into the hollow below, for he knew that the old birds would leave him and look after their young. This they did, and while they were down below saving their little ones, the boy had time to climb the cliff by means of his rope and thus get away.

10. We are told that some eagles once built a nest in a large, fine, tall oak-tree, as they thought it a likely place to be free from harm. They had not dwelt there long when a little mole, which lived in the ground

below, told the mother eagle that the tree was rotten at the root, but of this no notice was taken. One day the mother had been out in search of food, and had come back with a nice feast for her young ones, when, to her great grief, she saw the tree lying on the ground, and her young ones dead.

‘You would not listen to me,’ said the mole, ‘when I told you the tree was not sound.’

‘Who would have thought that a little thing like you could know anything about it?’ said the eagle. But the mole was just the one to know all about it, for he lived in the root of the tree, and had seen it get weaker day by day for some time.

**soars** : flies.

**mid-day** : noon.

**curved** : bent round.

**root** : the part of the tree  
in the ground.



## THREE BRAVE DOGS.



fro-zen  
dar-ing  
fair-ly  
de-light

weight  
drowned  
scram-ble  
as-sist

play-mate  
strug-gling  
suc-cess  
at-tempt

1. One winter's day, four dogs were playing with each other by the side of a deep river, which was then frozen over, when one of them, more daring than the rest, ran along the weak ice.

2. This dog's name was Dash, and, as he loved a bit of fun, he no sooner got fairly on

the river than he began playing some of his odd tricks, to the great delight of the other dogs, as they looked on in wonder.

3. But Dash did not like to play alone, and before long he did all he could, by barking and other signs, to induce his more timid friends to follow him. They, however, chose to have their sport on the land, rather than run the risk of a mishap on the water.

4. Matters seemed to be going on all right, when all at once the ice gave way under the dog's weight, in a place where it was very thin, and poor Dash was in great danger of being drowned. He tried hard to scramble upon the ice again, but finding his efforts useless, he barked loudly for help.

5. One of the dogs on the bank of the river lost no time in making his way to assist his drowning playmate. Upon reaching the spot where Dash was struggling for his life, he took hold of him with his teeth, and tried, but without success, to pull him out of the water.

6. In the meantime the other two dogs were making a most dismal howl and running about wildly for help. As no one came in sight, they left the bank, and joined in the



attempt to save Dash. The ice was so smooth, however, that the dogs could not get a firm footing, and after many trials to drag their friend out of the river, they gave up their almost hopeless task.

7. The three dogs now held a meeting on the ice, with heads close to-ge-ther, and after this had lasted a few seconds, two of the dogs started off at full speed for the nearest house to get help, while the third dog laid himself down on the ice close to the place where it had given way—as if to keep guard over Dash, who was only just able to keep his nose above the surface of the water.

8. At this moment two men came along the bank of the river, and seeing the dog in the water, they got a long board, and placed it on the ice so as to reach a little over the spot where the dog had fallen in. One of them then stepped lightly on it, and taking hold of Dash brought him out of the water, stiff with cold and almost dead.

9. The dog that had acted as watcher showed signs of great joy when Dash was out of danger, and on the return of the other two that went for help—but could not get any—the three were seen to wag their tails

and frisk about round their wet friend Dash,  
to show how much they shared in the pleasure  
of seeing him once more safe on land.

in,duce : coax.  
mis,hap : ill luck.  
dis,mal : sad.

tim,id : not bold.  
use,less : of no use.  
frisk : skip about.



## THE MANDARIN AND HIS RAT.

sun-ny	clothes	light-ly
cun-ning	learned	par-a-sol
cap-tive	chil-dren	dai-ly
sol-dier	crea-ture	friends

1. A Mandarin once caught a rat,  
    Upon a sunny day,  
    And thought he'd teach him little tricks,  
    To pass the time away.
2. He gave his cunning captive cheese—  
    The captive liked the fun ;  
    And soon, drest up in soldier clothes,  
    He learned to fire a gun.
3. The children all would crowd around,  
    And clap their hands, and grin,  
    To see the creature roll a hoop  
    To please the Mandarin.
4. Full soon that rat with little sticks  
    Would drum upon a pan ;  
    Or lightly skip across a rope  
    With parasol and fan.
5. The rat much liked the Mandarin,  
    The Mandarin the rat,  
    And when his daily tricks were done,  
    He'd sleep within his hat.

6. They grew at last to be good friends,  
And liked each other well ;  
And thus they lived together long—  
How long I cannot tell.

**Mandarin** : a Chinaman | **grin** : laugh.  
holding a high office.



## A LETTER.



reached  
mas-ter  
mon-ey  
safe-ly

rail-way  
sta-tion  
car-ried  
tired

pres-ent  
won-der  
get-ting  
shil-ling

Bedford : August 3, 1881

My dear Father,

1. I reached my new place this morn-  
ing about ten o'clock, and I think I sha-  
like it very well. My master seems a kin

man, and I shall do my best to please him with my work.

2. The money you gave me is put safely away in my box till I come to see you again at home. It will just pay my fare by the railway.

3. The master kindly sent a big boy to meet me at the station, and he carried my box for me. I was very glad of this help, for I was too tired to carry it myself.

4. In this village there is a very old church, with a great deal of ivy growing up its walls. I will tell you about the inside after I have been to service.

5. I shall attend a school on Sunday, and hear all the good things I can.

6. All the hay is got in here ; not a drop of rain fell from the time it was cut to the time it was carried. The rick has been thatched, and all made snug. The crop is much larger than last year's.

7. My wages will be three shillings a week for the present, but if I do well my master will give me four shillings when I have been with him a year.

8. I think my health will be better here, and that when next you see me I shall have

rosy cheeks. The air is very sweet, and I can have plenty of fresh milk and eggs.

9. I shall often think of you, and wonder how you are all getting on. You must write to me at least once a week, and tell me all the news from home.

10. Give my love to mother and sister Mary.

I remain, my dear father,

Your loving son,

JAMES ABBOTT.

**fare** : money paid to be  
carried.

**rick** : pile of hay.

**village** : a small town.

**thatched** : covered with  
straw.

**crop** : the hay got off the  
fields.



## BOSSY'S- FRIGHT.



learned  
gen-tle  
wheat  
pas-ture

dan-ger  
brought  
board  
chew-ing

sur-prise  
fore-head  
sor-ry  
fen-ces

1. Old Bossy had been on the farm many years. She was a very fine cow in her prime; but as she grew old she learned some bad tricks. Though gentle and kind in the shed, she would push down fences, and open every gate on the farm. She would get into the corn-fields, make herself



at home in the wheat and oats, and do a great deal of harm.

2. Some check had to be put upon her. So one day she was sent to the pasture with her head tied down to her foot by a strong rope. In about three hours a man ran up to the farm-house, to say that old Bossy had fallen over a log, and was lying on her back.

3. Now if a cow gets down on her back, in this way, in a place where she cannot turn over, she is in great danger. The man said, 'Come quickly, for old Bossy has fallen down and cannot get up.' Every-one ran to the pasture, and by much pulling and lifting got the cow up. She looked very happy to be on her feet once more; but as soon as the rope was cut she was at her old tricks again.

4. The very next day Bossy was found eating the corn in a field which did not belong to her master. Some-thing must be done. They did not like to tie her head down again; so they made up their minds to put a board over her eyes.

5. The board was brought, and tied with cords to her horns. She stopped chewing

her cud at once, and stood still. The men left her in the lane that led to the pasture, and went to their work. She did not move. She did not even whisk her tail to drive away the flies.

6. When the men went home to dinner, they were struck with surprise to see her still standing in the place where they left her. They patted her kindly, took the board off, and saw on her forehead a spot as large as a man's hand, where the hair had turned nearly white. There was not a bit of white on her forehead before the board was put on. The poor thing had begun to turn grey from sheer fright.

7. All the people about the farm felt very sorry for her, and the board was never again tied to her horns. After a time she began to chew her cud, and seemed all right; and she went on pushing down the fences and opening the gates just as often as before. This is a true story.

**prime** : at her best.

**cud** : food chewed more  
than once.

**log** : block of wood.

**sheer fright** : from fear  
only.

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## THE ROOK AND THE LARK.



day-light  
bathed  
hymn  
qui-et

mead-ow  
haugh-ty  
pro-found  
ro-man-tic

re-peat  
won-dered  
bough  
min-strel-sy

1. 'Good night, Sir Rook,' said a little Lark,  
'The daylight fades, it will soon be dark ;  
I've bathed my wings in the sun's last ray,  
I've sung my hymn to the dying day.  
So now I haste to my quiet nook  
In yon dewy meadow :—Good night, Sir Rook.'
2. 'Good night, poor Lark,' said his titled friend,  
With a haughty toss, and a distant bend ;  
'I also go to my rest profound,  
But not to sleep on the cold damp ground ;  
The fittest place for a bird like me  
Is the topmost bough of yon tall pine tree.

3. 'I open'd my eyes at peep of day,  
And saw you taking your upward way,  
Dreaming your fond romantic dreams,  
An ugly speck in the sun's bright beams;  
Soaring too high to be seen or heard—  
And said to myself—What a foolish bird !
4. 'I trod the park with a princely air :  
I filled my crop with the richest fare,  
I cawed all day 'mid a lordly crew,  
And I made more noise in the world than you !  
The sun shone full on my ebon wing ;  
I looked and wondered:—Good night, poor  
thing !'
5. 'Good night, once more,' said the Lark's sweet  
voice ;  
'I see no cause to repent my choice !  
You build your nest in the lofty pine,  
But is your slumber more soft than mine ?  
You make more noise in the world than I,  
But whose is the sweetest minstrelsy ?'

*Source unknown.*

**fades** : goes away.  
**dewy** : moisture which has  
fallen from the air  
during the night.  
**peep of day** : when the day  
begins.  
**mid** : amidst.

**slumber** : sleep.  
**dying day** : the day which  
is coming to an end.  
**titled** : because he was  
called 'Sir.'  
**soaring** : flying.

## THE RABBIT.



cov-ered  
shin-ing  
com-mon  
bur-row

dan-ger  
to-geth-er  
num-bers  
war-rens

gar-dens  
dam-age  
mo-ment  
jack-ets

1. The rabbit is a small animal, with a short tail and long ears. The hind legs are longer than the front ones, and it is covered with smooth shining fur. It is one of the most common wild animals in this country.

2. The place where the wild rabbit lives

is a deep burrow, or hole in the ground, into which it runs the moment it thinks danger is near.

3. Rabbits live together in large numbers. The places in which they form their burrows are called warrens.

4. They often leave their burrows and run over the fields and gardens near, doing great harm. They also do much damage in woods by eating the bark off the trees.

5. They like to live best where there is sand covered with prickly furze, which not only serves them with plenty of food, but helps to keep away from their holes those that would do them harm.

6. The claws on the foot of the rabbit are well fitted for digging and making holes in the ground.

7. Rabbits are born blind, nearly naked, and quite helpless. Like kittens, they open their eyes for the first time when they are ten or twelve days old.

8. By many persons the flesh of the rabbit is much liked, and their skins are sought after for the fur, which is made into hats, muffs, and trimming for jackets.

9. Boys often keep tame rabbits, and find

it a very pleasing pastime. They are larger than wild ones, and vary much in colour.

10. An old tub or box, well lined with clean hay or straw, and made to keep out water, is a snug hutch or house for them, but it should be raised a little from the ground to prevent damp getting in.

11. For food, tame rabbits like oats, bran, cabbage leaves, carrot tops, and boiled potato peelings.

pleas-ing  
pas-time  
col-our

pre-vent  
cab-bage  
car-rot

boiled  
po-ta-to  
peel-ings

**helpless** : cannot do any-  
thing.

**furze** : gorse, or shrub with  
yellow flowers.

**hind legs** : two back legs.

**woods** : a lot of growing  
trees.

**bark** : the covering of a  
tree.

**kittens** : young cats.



## A GUESSING STORY.

vis-i-tor	sev-er-al	troub-le
wel-come	crea-ture	pres-ent
knocked	vi-o-lent	chim-ney
whis-tle	lib-er-ty	tread-ing

1. Last night as I lay in bed I had a visitor that I did not in the least expect, and I must say one that was not welcome. He was a rude fellow, for he never knocked before entering, but after giving a shrill whistle through the keyhole, like a rude school-boy, he burst open the door and rushed into the room.

2. It was too dark for me to see him, but I knew by several signs that he had come in. First of all, the clumsy creature must needs knock some letters off a table near my bed, by his violent way of pushing past every-thing without looking where he was going. I heard them fall on the floor.

3. Then he took a very great liberty, for he came so close to my bed that I felt his breath upon my cheek. Very cold it was,



and I was so chilled by it that I began to sneeze.

4. I suppose he thought he had now given me trouble enough for the present, for he made straight for the window, which had been left a little open, and in another second I heard him making a loud noise outside.

5. 'If he gets out at the window, he can get in by it again,' I thought to myself; so I jumped out of bed, shut the window, and bolted both it and the door.

6. 'He may whistle through the keyhole again, if he likes to be so rude,' I said, 'but he can't burst the door open now, and he is not sharp enough to pick the lock; so I am rid of him at last.'

7. But he was too cunning for me, for down he came through the chimney, pushing on the hearth-rug some scraps of paper I had thrown into the fire-place. For an instant I felt him touch my cheek again with his cold breath. Then he made his way back up the chimney, and all was still. I jumped up at once, and closed the grate with a bang.

8. 'Now, my friend,' said I, 'I think I

have driven you off at last, and you will have hard work to get into this room again.'

9. But when I went into my garden next morning, and saw how some wicked creature had been picking the leaves off the trees, and bringing the plums and apples from the trees to the ground, and treading on my pretty flowers, my thoughts at once turned to my rude visitor of the night before, and I thought that he had the best of it after all. Now, who do you think he was?

**chilled** : cooled.

|

**can't** : cannot.



## OVER THE SEA.



shad-ows  
dark-ness  
sum-mer  
spring

flow-ers  
jas-mine  
au-tumn  
bur-ied

bloom-ing  
turned  
sun-light  
missed

1. I sit in the fading light;  
    And watch the shadows fall,  
My day has turned to night,  
    And darkness covers all ;  
The sunlight's gone far over the sea,  
But the morn will bring it back to me.

2. My summer birds are gone,  
 I cannot hear them sing,  
 I missed them one by one,  
 Till all had taken wing;  
 My summer birds flew over the sea,  
 But the spring will call them back to me.
3. My summer flowers are dead,  
 The jasmine and the rose;  
 The autumn leaves are shed,  
 And buried in the snows;  
 But the flowers are blooming over the sea,  
 And the spring will bring them back to me.
4. My darling child has passed  
 Up to the Promised Land;  
 The anchor she has cast,  
 Away in the golden strand:  
 But I shall follow over the sea,  
 And Heaven will give her back to me.

Rev. W. H. BURTON.

taken wing : flown away.		leaves are shed : have fallen from the trees.
Promised Land : Heaven.		



## THE HONEST GIRL.



hon-es-ty  
trades-man  
dis-tance  
ques-tion

a-pron  
fam-i-ly  
en-tered  
count-ed

fif-teen  
thou-sand  
care-ful  
stol-en

1. A banker, when jumping from a cab, in the city of New York, dropped his pocket-book, and had gone some distance before he found out his loss; then turning back in

haste, he asked the persons he met if they had seen it.

2. Meeting a little girl ten years old, to whom he put the same question, she asked, 'What kind of a pocket-book?' He told her. Then, opening her apron, she said, 'Is this it?' 'Yes,' said the banker, 'that is mine; come into this store with me.'

3. They entered; he opened and counted the notes, and looked over the papers. 'They are all right,' said he; 'fifteen notes of a thousand dollars each. Had they fallen into other hands I might never have seen them again. Take then, my little girl, one of them as a reward for your honesty, and may it be a lesson to me to be more careful in future.'

4. 'No,' said the girl, 'I cannot take it; I have been taught not to keep what is not mine, and my parents would not be pleased if I took the note home; they might suppose I had stolen it.' 'Well, then, my child, show me where you live,' said the banker.

5. The girl took him to a small house—rude, but clean—in a back street. He told the parents all that had taken place. They said

their child had acted quite right : it was true they were poor ; but they had been taught not to set their hearts on rich gifts. The banker told them they must take the note, and, from what he had seen and heard, he was sure they would make good use of the money.

6. The good people then blessed their kind friend, for such he proved to be. They paid some debts which had troubled their minds, and the banker found the father work in his trade as a joiner, by which means he was able to rear his family in comfort.

7. The little girl is now the wife of a worthy trades-man in New York, and has cause to be thankful that she was taught in her youth to be strictly honest, and to 'do to others as you would have others do to you.'

bank-er  
thank-ful

fu-ture  
re-ward

les-son  
peo-ple

New York : a large city in  
America.

debts : what they owed.

joiner : one who joins  
wood-work.

dollar : a silver piece of  
money worth about 4s.  
2d.

rude : rough-looking.

youth : when a child.

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## THE FOX AND THE CAT.



friend-ly  
mat-ters  
whisk-er  
hun-gry

meek-ly  
my-self  
hun-dred  
cun-ning

baf-fle  
nir-bly  
branch-es  
quick-ly

1. One day a cat met a fox in a wood.  
'Ah,' she thought, 'he is clever, and has  
much sense, and is talked of in the world a



good deal ; I will speak to him.' So she said, quite in a friendly manner, ' Good morning, dear Mr. Fox ; how are you ? and how do matters go with you in these bad times ? '

2. The fox, full of pride, looked at the cat from head to foot, and hardly knew what to say to her for a long time. At last he said, ' Ah, you poor little whisker-cleaner, you old grey tabby, you hungry mouse-hunter, what are you thinking about to come to me, and to stand there and ask me how I am going on ? What have you learnt, and how many tricks do you know ? '

3. ' I only know one,' said the cat, meekly. ' And pray what is that ? ' asked the fox. ' Well,' the cat said, ' if the hounds are behind me, I can spring up into a tree out of their way, and save myself.'

4. ' Is that all ? ' cried the fox ; ' why, I am master of a hundred tricks, and have, over and above all, a sackful of cunning. But I pity you, puss ; so come with me, and I will teach you how to baffle both men and hounds.'

5. At this moment a hunter with four hounds was seen coming along. The cat at

once sprang nimbly up a tree, and seated herself on the highest bough, where she was quite hidden by the thick branches.

6. 'Turn out the sack, Mr. Fox; turn out the sack!' cried the cat; but the hounds had already caught him, and held him fast.

'Ah, Mr. Fox,' said the cat, 'your hundred tricks are not of much use to you now; if you had only known one like mine, you would not so quickly have lost your life.'

**sackful** : plenty.  
**master** : can do.

| **hounds** : dogs.



## SNOW-FLAKES.



love-ly	morn-ing	keep-ing
fall-ing	whith-er	bar-ley
soft-ly	flakes	clov-er
won-der	beau-ti-ful	trick-le

1. Oh ! where do you come from,  
    You lovely flakes of snow ?  
    Falling, falling, softly falling  
    On the earth below.  
On the firs, on the laurels,  
    And on the hills afar ;  
How I wonder if you come  
    From where the angels are !
2. The land was dark at even-tide,  
    But with the morning light  
We find that you have clothed it  
    In a robe of dazzling light.

Oh! where do you come from,  
 And whither will you go,  
 You wonderful, you beautiful,  
 You noiseless flakes of snow.

3. Ah! you will melt into the ground  
 When your kind work is over,  
 Of keeping warm the wheat that's sown,  
 The barley, grass, and clover,  
 From biting winds and with'ring frost;  
 You'll weep and sink away—  
 Yes, deep your tears will trickle down  
 Because you cannot stay.

**firs, laurels:** names of  
 trees.

**a far:** at a long distance.

**daz zling:** a very strong  
 light.

**bit ing wind:** winds so cold  
 as to give pain.

**you'll:** you will.

**even tide:** evening.

**clothed:** covered.

**noise less:** without noise.

**with ring:** withering, or  
 frosts that kill.

**that's:** that is.



## THE HORSE.



ser-vice  
de-pends  
man-ner  
stu-pid

kind-ness  
cli-mates  
curved  
wag-gons

hedg-es  
fam-i-ly  
harm-less  
no-tice

1. Many animals are very useful to us, but there is hardly one that man finds of more service than the horse. The work a master gets from his horse depends a great deal upon how he treats it. If his manner is kind, the horse will do his duty without the whip. If better work can be got from a

horse by kindness, it is worth while for all wise masters to use their horses well.

2. Few animals can be put to so many kinds of work as the horse, or live in so many climates. In some parts of the world it is very cold, in others very hot; yet the horse—like the dog—can live almost anywhere.

3. Young horses are called foals. They are very timid, and do not go far from their mothers. They may often be seen—full of glee—running about in the fields.

4. A horse has a long body and a curved neck, from which its mane hangs. Its hoof or foot is not split like that of the cow or pig, but is all in one piece. Its ears stand erect and come to a point at the end, the eyes are large and bright, and its lips are thin. Hair growing on its skin keeps it warm.

5. There are many kinds of horses. The *dray*-horse is the one used to draw large waggons and heavy loads. It has a thick body and stout legs, which give it strength for its work. Our cabs are drawn by another kind of horse; and the *hunter* is used for hunting foxes, stags, and other wild animals.

The hunter must not only be a quick runner, but must be able to leap over hedges, ditches, and walls, when it is in the chase. The English *race*-horse can go very swiftly; its body and legs are very thin.

6. In this country we do not allow horses to live in our houses, but this is not the rule all over the world. The Arab treats his horse as kindly as though it were his child; it sleeps and eats in the same room as the family, plays with the children, and is quite harmless. He loves his horse, and in return the horse is very fond of him.

7. Some men beat their horses when a kind word or gentle pat would do far more good. A cabman drove into a street through which he wished to pass, but after going some distance, he found it closed at the other end. Had he looked when he was about to enter the street he might have seen a notice telling him this, but he did not. Because he had to turn back and go another way, he was so angry, that after turning the horse's head round, he cruelly whipped the poor animal till he was out of the street, as if the horse had been to blame.

8. Horses have a good deal of sense. A

horse grazed in a field where there was a pump with a tub under the spout. When the horse wanted to drink, he would go to the pump, take the handle in his mouth, and moving it up and down as he saw his master do, would draw water in the tub and take his fill.

9. There was a farm-boy who was too small to mount the plough-horse, and so he taught it to put down its head while he got across its neck. This done, the horse would gently raise its head, and then the boy slipped down the neck on the horse's back. You will think this was a very clever trick.

**cru-el-ly**  
**whipped**

**plough**  
**gent-ly**

**slipped**  
**clev-er**

**cross voice** : angry tone.

**erect** : straight up.

**pat** : a gentle tap.

**timid** : soon afraid.

**chase** : the hunt.





## THE FOX AND THE GEESE.



mead-ow  
laugh-ing  
ea-si-ly  
begged

lis-ten  
sud-den-ly  
af-ter-wards  
our-selves

fat-test  
mas-ter  
mat-ts  
to-mor-row

1. A fox once came to a meadow in which a flock of fine fat geese were feeding.

‘Ah,’ he said, laughing, ‘I am just in time; they are so near each other that I can come and fetch them away one by one easily.’

2. The geese, when they saw him, began to cackle with fear, and sprang up and begged for their lives ; but the fox would not listen, and said, ‘There is no hope of mercy—you must die.’

3. At last one of them took heart, and said, ‘It would be very hard for us poor geese to lose our young fresh lives so suddenly as this ; but if you will just grant us one thing, we will after-wards place ourselves in a row, so that you may choose the fattest and best among us.’

4. ‘And what is it you want ?’ asked the fox.

‘That we may have one hour to pray in before we die.’

‘Well, that is only fair,’ said the fox ; ‘there is no harm in that. Pray away, then, and I will wait for you.’

5. They at once began to pray in their own way—which was a most noisy cackle. This was heard at the farm, which was what the geese wanted, and long before the hour had ended, the master and his men came to the field to see what the matter was.

6. The fox in a great fright ran away

quickly, but not before he was seen by the men.

‘We must hunt that fox to-morrow,’ said the master, as they drove the geese home and put them where they would be safe. And so the cunning fox was out-witted by a goose.

**flock** : a number.

**mercy** : pity.

**out-witted** : beaten by a  
trick.

**took heart** : felt bold.

**cackle** : the sound made  
by a goose.

**fright** : full of fear.



## THE WELCOME SPARROW.



in-tend  
some-thing  
tim-id  
rea-son

com-plains  
rip-est  
ask-ing  
shock-ing

rob-bing  
hon-est  
vexed  
break-fast

1. 'Glad to see you, little bird,  
'Twas your pretty chirp I heard ;  
What did you intend to say ?'  
'Give me something this cold day ?'
2. 'That I will, and plenty too ;  
All these crumbs I saved for you.  
Don't be timid—here's a treat ;  
I will wait and see you eat.
3. 'Frost and snow have made you bold ;  
I'll not hurt you, though I'm told  
There are many reasons why  
Every sparrow ought to die.

4. 'Farmer says you steal his wheat,  
And complains his plums you eat—  
Choose the ripest for your share,  
Never asking whose they are.
5. 'Shocking tales I hear of you ;  
Chirp and tell me, are they true ?  
Robbing all the summer long,  
Don't you think it very wrong ?
6. 'Yet you seem an honest bird ;  
Don't be vexed at what I've heard.  
Now, no grapes and plums you eat ;  
Now, you cannot steal the wheat.
7. 'So I will not try to know  
What you did so long ago ;  
There's your breakfast—eat away ;  
Come and see me every day.'

*Child's Own Magazine.*

'twas : it was.  
here's : here is.  
I'm : I am.  
there's : there is.  
don't : do not.

I'll : I will.  
I've : I have.  
chirp : a short sound made  
by a bird.



## ALFRED THE GREAT.

les-son	print-ing	there-fore
Eng-land	pret-ty	prom-ised
schol-ars	col-oured	pre-sent
writ-ten	pic-tures	stud-y

1. The name that stands at the head of this lesson is that of a king who ruled in England a long time ago. He is called 'the Great' because he did so many great and brave deeds for his country, and was so good, clever, and wise. You will no doubt be pleased to hear some-thing about him.

2. There were few good scholars when Alfred was king, and they were mostly the rich. In those days schools were not found in nearly every town and village, as they now are. The only books known were written with pen and ink ; printing was not found out till a long time after. Though the books were not such as we have, yet some of them were very pretty, and had nicely coloured pictures in them.

3. Alfred's step-mother had such a book, and one day as it lay open upon her knee, she turned the leaves over and showed the pictures to young Alfred and his three

brothers as they stood around her. The boys were very much pleased with the book, and the good, kind lady could see in their



bright faces that each one wished the book was his. She there-fore promised that the

first who could read it should have it for a present.

4. You may depend upon it the boys tried hard to learn to read, and that they spent in study much of the time they had before given to play. Alfred, though the youngest of the four, was in the end the winner of the book.

5. Alfred was made king of England when he was about twenty-three years of age. At that time the Danes—a fierce, savage people—came to this land and tried to make them-selves masters of it. Alfred, with his brave men, fought against them, and did his best to drive them away, but the Danes won most of the battles.

6. This made Alfred very sad, and when he could no longer hold his ground, he dressed himself as a peasant and sought shelter with a herds-man, who let him stay in his house in return for the help Alfred gave in minding the cattle and working in the woods.

7. This was a great change for a king ; but Alfred was always thinking of his poor country, and how he might again raise an army to fight against the cruel Danes.

8. When a man's mind is full of one



thing, other things are often left undone.' It was so with Alfred. One day the herdsman's wife, having to go from home, asked Alfred, as he sat by the fire mending his bow, to watch some cakes which she left baking on the hearth, and when one side was done to turn them over.

9. He was, however, so busy thinking over his plans for crushing the Danes, that he forgot all about the cakes, and when the mistress of the house came back she found them burnt and spoilt. She was very angry, and scolded Alfred, telling him 'he was glad enough to eat cakes, though he was too lazy to turn them when they were baking.' The woman little thought she was speaking to her king.

10. Some time after, Alfred, with his wife and family and a few friends, went to live on a small island, where there were plenty of trees, among which they built their huts. The stags and goats that lived in the woods were caught, and served as food.

11. One day, when Alfred was sitting by the side of the fire, a poor beggar came to the door of his hut and asked for something to eat. At the time Alfred had only one loaf

for himself and his family, and he had no idea where more bread was to come from. When he heard his wife telling the beggar to go away, he said, 'It is only one poor man asking help from another. Give him half the loaf.' This was done, and soon after, Alfred's friends, who had been in search of food, brought back enough to supply all their wants.

young-est  
win-ner  
sav-age

peas-ant  
shel-ter  
bus-y

scold-ed  
beg-gar  
fam-i-ly

army : a number of sol-  
diers.  
bow : used for shooting  
arrows.

hearth : place near the fire.  
idea : thought.  
search : look for.



## THE FOX AND THE HORSE



farm-er  
faith-ful  
an-i-mal  
strength

sor-row  
re-plied  
safe-ly  
wished

ad-vice  
fast-en  
twist-ed  
mead-ow

1. A farmer once had a faithful horse that had grown old and could not serve him any longer. He did not care now to find the animal food, so he said to it: 'I do not want you any more, for you are of no use to me. Go out of my stable and make yourself a home in the fields. But if you can

prove your strength by bringing me a lion, you may return, and I will keep you as long as you live.'

2. The horse, feeling very sad, walked on till he came to a wood, where he might shelter himself under the trees in bad weather. A fox met him, and said, 'Friend, why do you hang your head and look so full of sorrow?'

3. 'Ah,' replied the horse, 'my master forgets for how many years I have served him and taken him safely on my back from place to place, and now I am unable to work any longer, he will not provide me with food, and has sent me away.'

4. 'Without a word of comfort?' asked the fox.

'The comfort was of no use,' said the horse. 'He told me that if I was strong enough to bring him a lion he would take me back and keep me; but he knows very well I cannot do that.'

'Don't be down-cast,' said the fox, 'I can help you: just lie down here, and do not move, but seem as if you were dead.'

5. The horse did as he was told, while the fox went to a lion, whose den was not

far off, and said to him, 'Yonder lies a dead horse; come with me and I will show you where it is, and you can have a good feast.'

6. The lion went with him; but when they reached the spot the fox said, 'You cannot make a meal at your ease here; I'll tell you what I will do; I will tie the horse to you by its tail, and then you can drag him to your den and eat him just when you like.'

7. Pleased with this advice, the lion placed himself near the horse, and stood quite still to let the fox fasten the tail. But in doing so he twisted it round the lion's legs in such a manner that with all his strength he could not move them. When the fox had done this, he struck the horse on the back and cried, 'Gee up, old horse, gee up.'

8. Up sprang the horse, and ran off at full speed, taking the lion with him at his heels. As they dashed through the wood the lion began to roar so loudly that all the birds flew away in a fright.

9. But the horse let him roar, and dragged him along over field and meadow till he got to his master's door. As soon as

the master saw what his horse had got, he said to him, 'As you have done what I wanted, you shall now stay with me, and have food and shelter as long as you live.'

**stable :** a place where  
horses are kept.

**den :** the place where a wild  
beast lives.

**downcast :** low in spirits.

**bad weather :** wet, windy,  
and cold.

**I'll :** I will.



## THE VILLAGE GREEN.



mer-ry  
wel-come  
sky-lark  
loud-er

a-round  
cheer-ful  
ech-o-ing  
wea-ry

de-scend  
moth-ers  
sis-ters  
broth-ers

1. The sun doth arise,  
And makes happy the skies;  
The merry bells ring  
To welcome the spring:

2. The skylark and thrush,  
The birds of the bush,  
Sing louder around  
To the bells' cheerful sound ;  
Whilst our sports shall be seen  
On the echoing green.
3. Old John, with white hair,  
Doth laugh away care,  
Sitting under the oak  
Among the old folk.
4. They laugh at our play,  
And soon they all say,  
'Such, such were the joys  
When we all—girls and boys—  
In our youth-time were seen  
On the echoing green.'
5. Till the little ones, weary,  
No more can be merry ;  
The sun doth descend,  
And our sports have an end.
6. Round the laps of their mothers  
Many sisters and brothers,  
Like birds on the nest,  
Are ready for rest,  
And sport no more seen  
On the darkening green.

folk : people.

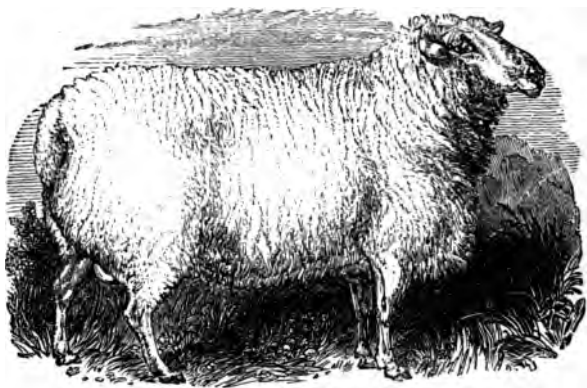
aps : mothers' knees.

youth-time : when young.

green : a small green, or  
grassy plat.



## SHEEP.



stock-ings  
fur-nish  
cloth-ing  
wool-ly

shear-ing  
bleat-ing  
flan-nel  
man-tles

blank-ets  
jack-ets  
use-ful  
mer-i-no

1. The sheep is not a servant of man in the same sense as the horse or dog is. It cannot carry burdens like the horse, nor defend our houses like the dog; yet it is of great use to us, both alive and dead.

2. Sheep furnish a great part of our clothing; their woolly coats are shorn every

spring: this is called sheep-shearing. The fleeces are cleaned, spun, and woven into many kinds of cloth.

3. In winter we wear flannel garments; woollen stockings and scarves; and cloth jackets, coats, and mantles. Our homes are made cheerful with carpets; and at night we sleep snugly under warm blankets. The sheep gives us wool for all these.

4. When dead, we find a use for almost every part of its body. Its flesh is eaten under the name of mutton; its fat is made into candles; and its skin into door-mats, into covers for books, into gloves, and a great many other useful things.

5. The sheep, like the horse, cow, and pig, is a hoofed animal. Its hoofs are split like those of a cow. It has a large body, small head, slender legs, and a short thick tail. Some have curly horns.

6. There are many kinds of sheep. The merino sheep of Spain yield the finest wool. They are kept in large flocks, some of which contain ten thousand animals, under the care of fifty shep-herds, a number of boys, and a set of strong dogs. The skins of these sheep are made into kid gloves.

7. Sheep will thrive where there is little grass and where an ox would starve. Those reared on hills are good climbers, and can leap from crag to crag

8. The male sheep is called a ram, the female a ewe, and the young sheep a lamb.

9. They are gentle, harmless creatures, and are soon led astray. They follow a leader well, and do what he wishes.

10. The love of ewes for their lambs is very strong. A gentleman who was sailing on the coast of Scotland says: 'Our ship was within a short distance of an island, when we saw a lamb bleating sadly on a high, steep rock in the sea, near the shore. By some means it had reached this spot, and there seemed no way of its getting off.

11. 'The ewe mother was on a rock above, bleating for its young, but not able to give it any help. We made up our minds to save the lamb and give it back to its mother. A boat being put out, we steered for the rock, took up the lamb, rowed to a low landing-place, and there put it ashore.

12. 'The ewe had been watching, and came round to meet us. I shall never forget the happy meeting of that mother

and child. After showing some signs of love, they trotted off together full of joy.'

13. The ram has strong twisted horns, and when he is angry he butts with them. A funny story is told of a ram that wanted some water to drink. A number of our soldiers were camped out in tents, and the spring that supplied them with water was across a field.

14. A drummer-boy was sent to fetch a pail of water. As it was a very hot day, he stopped to rest on the way back. A ram that was grazing in the field thought this was a good chance to get a drink.

15. So he charged the boy from behind, butted him over, and then helped himself. When he had finished drinking, the boy seized the pail to carry it to the tent. But the ram charged him again. Putting down the pail, the boy ran and the ram ran after him.

16. Seeing a pile of drums near, the boy hid behind the big drum. The ram came on and butted the drum. His head went right through it. The next thing to be seen was the ram running off as hard as he could. He was not likely to butt a drum again.

## THE SQUIRREL AND THE MASTIFF.



fel-low  
mas-tiff  
squir-rel  
watch-ing

la-zy  
pert-ness  
pelt-ing  
growled

grum-ble  
ken-nel  
prop-er  
mas-ter's

1. 'What an idle fellow you are!' said a surly mastiff to a squirrel that was leaping about in the trees above him.

The squirrel threw a nut-shell at him.

'I have been watching you these two

hours,' said the dog again, 'and you have done nothing but dance, and swing, and skip, and whisk that tail of yours about all the time.'

2. 'What a lazy dog you must be!' said the squirrel, 'to sit there for two hours watching me play.'

'None of your pertness,' said the dog. 'I had done all my work before I came here.'

3. 'Oh, oh!' said the squirrel; 'well, my work is never done. I have work up in this tree that you know nothing about.'

'Work, indeed! I know of no work that you have but kicking up your heels, eating nuts, and pelting honest folks with the shells.'

4. 'Fie,' said the squirrel, 'do not be so snappish,' and he dropped another nut-shell on the dog.

'Just think how your lot differs from mine,' growled the mastiff; 'nothing but play and fun for you, up in the green trees, doing little else but amuse yourself from morning till night.'

5. 'Do not envy me my lot, friend, for though I do not grumble, I must ask you to bear in mind that it is not all joy.

Summer does not last for ever; and what becomes of me, do you think, when the trees are all bare, and the wind howls through the forest, and the fruits are gone? You then have a warm kennel and a nice meal to look to.'

'You would not change with me, however,' said the dog.

6. 'No, nor you with me, if you knew all,' said the squirrel. 'Be content, like me, to take the rough as well as the smooth of your proper lot. When I am starving with cold in the winter, I shall be glad to think of you sitting by your master's cosy fire. Cannot you find it in your heart to be glad now of my sunshine? Our lots are more equal than they seem to be.'

**folks**: people.  
**cosy**: snug.

**snappish**: angry.



## SNOW.



win-dow

cov-ered

be-gin-ning

mead-ows

cro-cus

break-fasts

de-clare

timid

fast-eyed

no-thing

al-though

sprin-kled

1. Oh, come to the window, dear brother, and see  
What a change has been made in the night;  
The snow has quite covered the broad cedar-tree,  
And the bushes are sprinkled with white.
2. The spring in the pond is be-gin-ning to freeze,  
And the fish-pond is frozen all o'er;  
Long ickles hang in bright rows from the trees,  
And drop in odd shapes from the door.
3. The old mossy thatch and the meadows so green  
Are dappled all over with white;  
The snowdrop and cro-cus no more can be seen,  
*The thick snow has covered them quite.*



4. And see the poor birds, how they fly to and fro,  
As they look for their break-fasts again ;  
But the food that they seek for is hid in the snow,  
And they hop here and there all in vain.
5. Then open the window—I'll throw them some  
bread,  
I've some of my break-fast to spare ;  
I wish they would come to my hand to be fed,  
But they're all flown away, I declare.
6. Nay, now, pretty birds, don't be timid, I pray,  
You shall not be hurt, I'll engage ;  
I've not come to catch you, and force you away,  
Or fasten you up in a cage.
7. I wish you could know there's no cause for alarm,  
From *me* you have nothing to fear ;  
Why my little fingers should do you no harm,  
Al-though you came ever so near.

broad cedar tree : with  
broad branches.

odd shapes : strange forms.

dappled : marked with  
white.

I'll : I will.

icicles : hanging pieces of  
frozen water.

there's : there is.

sprinkled with white :  
covered with snow.

mossy thatch : roof of moss.  
they're : they are.

I've : I have.

alarm : fear.



## THE BREAD-FRUIT TREE.



Pa-cif-ic  
dwell-ing  
tough  
sea-son

scrap-ing  
wheat-en  
pleas-ant  
flu-id

pur-pos-es  
cap-i-tal  
gar-ments  
blos-soms

1. Did you ever hear of a tree bearing glue, and towels, and cloth, and tinder, and bread? There is just such a wonder. It is found in the Pacific islands, and is called the Bread-Fruit Tree.

2. It is about forty feet high, or as lofty as a three-storey dwelling-house. Its trunk grows to be nearly one foot in width. The branches come out straight from the tree, like dozens of out-spread arms, long at first, but

getting shorter and shorter as they near the top.


3. On these branches are pretty dark-green leaves, nearly two feet long, and deeply gashed at the edges; while, half-hidden among them, is fruit, growing like apples on short stems, but with a thick, tough, yellow rind.

4. This fruit is much like bread, or, as some say, like penny rolls. It is in season during eight months of the year, and the natives for that time have no other kind of bread.

5. They gather it while it is green, as soon as it reaches its full size, and bake it just as it is in an oven. Then scraping off its black outside crust, they come to the loaf, which has no hard seed or stone inside, but is much like pure, white, wheaten bread.

6. The only drawback is, they must eat it soon after baking, because in a few hours it loses its pleasant taste. But just think how handy it must be to be able, during eight months of the year, to gather one's loaves from the tree all ready for baking.

7. As for the glue, that is a kind of sticky fluid which flows from the trunk, and is



useful for many purposes. The leaves make good towels for the few natives who care to wash their hands and faces ; and from the inner bark a kind of coarse cloth is made, which makes capital every-day garments.

8. Besides this, the dried blossoms are used for tinder in lighting fires, and the wood of the tree is in great demand for building huts, boats, and rough bridges.

9. So you see no part of this strange tree grows in vain. Perhaps this could be said, in some sense, of every kind of tree. There are not many, however, that are as useful as the one which bears the bread-fruit.

**tinder** : the blossoms catch  
fire when a spark falls  
on them.

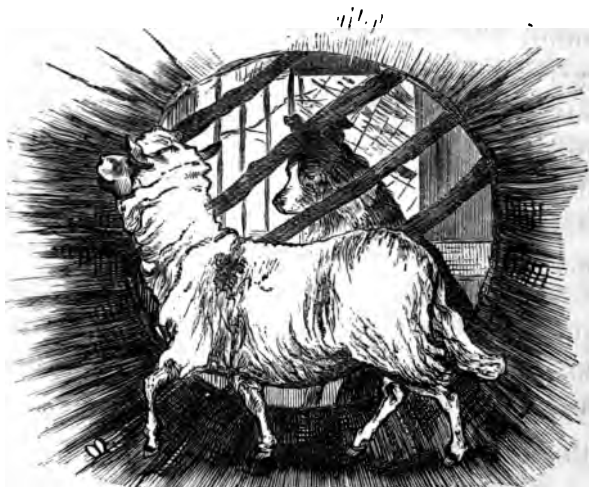
**dozens** : in twelves.

**gashed** : uneven.

**natives** : those born there.



## STORY ABOUT BUTTER-MAKING.



friends  
churn-ing  
some-times  
nar-row

piec-es  
pre-vent  
fast-en  
noth-ing

bleat-ing  
dis-tance  
a-wa-ken  
sharp-ness

1. Many years ago I spent a few weeks with some friends who lived at a large farm, where they made a great deal of butter every day. As so much churning could not be done by hand, dogs and sheep were sometimes made to help.

2. At the farm was a large churn, the

handle of which was made fast to a barrel made of narrow pieces or slips of wood, in such a way that when the barrel turned round the churn was worked. When the dairy-maid was ready to churn, she would put Bruce, their great dog, into this barrel, and say to him, 'Go on, Bruce.' At every step he took he turned the barrel; the faster the barrel moved, the quicker the butter was made in the churn.

3. Bruce did not work every day; but a sheep called 'Sheepy' was trained to take her turn. Sheepy worked on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; Bruce the other three days of the six.

4. Neither the dog nor the sheep liked this kind of work, and they often tried to get out of it by running away; but the farmer, to prevent this, took care to fasten them up the night before they were wanted.

5. One Monday evening, Bruce, having done his day's work, was lying on the rug before the fire, watching the children play, when John, one of the men on the farm, came in, calling out, 'Has any one seen Sheepy? we want to fasten her up ready for the morning.' No one had seen her; so

John ran off to look for her, but could not find her.

6. 'No matter,' said the farmer, 'Bruce has had an easy time to-day. We'll put him on to-morrow instead of Sheepy; he must not be let out to-night.' Bruce heard this, and when no one was looking he stole out of the house, and as he did not return for some time, there was nothing to be done but to wait.

7. Bruce had gone to look for Sheepy, as he had no idea of letting her get off her work on the morrow. At midnight a loud barking and bleating were heard some little distance from the house, and on going out to look, the farmer saw that Bruce had spied Sheepy in her hiding-place, and had driven her home; but as he could not unbar the gate, he was barking to awaken some one in the house. Sheepy was made fast for the night, and Bruce lay down again on the rug as if nothing had taken place.

8. When Sheepy was marched into the barrel next day, you ought to have seen Bruce walking about watching her. If Sheepy did not turn the barrel quickly, Bruce would growl; if she took no heed of that,

he would bark, and would not stop till the maid had touched Sheepy with the whip.

9. I think that a sheep that could tell the days of the week, as this one was able to do, and was sly enough to run away the night before her turn came to work, was just as wise as the dog that had the sharpness to fetch her back.

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### EXERCISES IN DICTATION.

#### COMMON ERRORS.

Get up, my son. The sun is high in the sky. It is past eight o'clock. You have to write out your lesson before going to school. Be sure you get all your sums right. You must write with your right hand. Get up at once, for the sun is warm and bright. On your way to school ask the wheel-wright to come and mend the wheel of the cart.

---

Jane says it is a great trouble to have to clean the grate every morning. It would be a greater trouble not to have a grate to clean. Jane is a grumbler. She was sulky this morning because there was no soft sugar, and she was obliged to grate some loaf sugar over the pie. The grumblers are very often the idle folks.



# WHY SOME BIRDS HOP AND OTHERS WALK.



swing-ing  
shak-ing  
smooth-ing  
fin-ished

hop-ping  
some-thing  
rea-son  
queer

jump-ing  
laughed  
close-ly  
scratch

1. A little bird sat on the twig of a tree,  
A-swinging and singing as glad as could be,  
And shaking his tail, and smoothing his dress,  
And having such fun as you never could guess.
2. And when he had finished his gay little song,  
He flew down in the street, and went hopping  
*along,*

This way and that way, with both little feet,  
While his sharp little eyes looked for something  
to eat.

3. A little boy said to him, 'Little bird, stop!  
And tell me the reason you go with a hop;  
Why don't you walk, as boys do, and men,  
One foot at a time—like a dove or a hen?
4. 'How queer it would look, if, when you go out,  
You should see little boys go jumping about  
Like you, little bird! And you don't know  
what fun  
It is to be able to walk and to run.'
5. Then the little bird went with a hop, hop, hop,  
And he laughed as though he never would  
stop;  
And he said, 'Little boy, there are some birds  
that talk,  
And some birds that hop, and some birds that  
walk.
6. 'Use your legs, little boy; watch closely and  
see  
What little birds hop both feet, just like me,  
And what little birds walk, like the duck and  
the hen,  
And when you know that, you'll know more  
than some men,

7. 'Every bird that can scratch in the dirt can walk;  
 Every bird that can wade in the water can walk;  
 Every bird that has claws to catch prey with can walk;  
 One foot at a time—that is why they can walk.
8. 'But most little birds who can sing you a song  
 Are so small that their legs are not very strong  
 To scratch with, or wade with, or catch things  
 —that's why  
 They hop with both feet. Little boy, good-bye.'

L. J. BLAKE in *Wide Awake*.

**don't:** do not.

**wade:** walk in water.

**you'll:** you will.

**that's:** that is.

### GOLDEN RULES.

Children, do you love each other?  
 Are you always kind and true?  
 Do you always do to others  
 As you'd have them do to you?

Be not selfish to each other,—  
 Never mar another's rest;  
 Strive to make each other happy,  
 And you will, yourselves, be blest.

## MILK.



rea-sons  
use-ful  
per-haps  
peo-ple

re-mains  
but-ter  
spoiled  
like-ly

fe-ver  
what-ev-er  
com-plaint  
fam-i-lies

1. Do you know why you eat food? Many reasons might be given, and among them you will be told—first, to form flesh; second, to keep our bodies warm. Milk is useful in both these ways.

2. You have perhaps heard people speak of *new* milk and *skim* milk. How do they differ? New milk has had none of the cream taken away from it; the milk which

remains after the cream has been taken from the surface is called skim milk.

3. Cream is the oil of milk ; it floats on the top because it is light. Butter is made from cream. It is taken off the milk and put into a churn, and moved about until it forms into butter. From milk we also get cheese.

4. It is not well to leave milk in a room where there is sickness, for the bad air may spoil it.

Any-one drinking milk so spoiled would very likely take the fever, or whatever the complaint might be.

5. Once, in London, there were no fewer than one hundred and four families seized with fever. It was found that ninety-six of these families had been supplied with milk from the same dairy. When the health inspector went to look at the dairy, he found that fever had been in the farmhouse where the milk came from. The milk had, therefore, become unfit for use, and those who drank it were made ill.

6. Very often milk, as you know, is mixed with water ; should this water have been made impure by a bad drain or a

farm-yard, the milk with which it is mixed may cause disease.

7. Jugs, or any vessels that are used for holding milk, above all, feeding-bottles for infants, ought always to be washed out with boiling water. The feeding-bottle to be feared most is the one with a long india-rubber tube: the milk sticks to the inside of the tube and becomes sour.

8. Pure fresh milk is one of the best articles of food we have. It is very good for sick people, and sometimes people who are very ill can take no other food.

9. Another useful food besides butter that we make from milk is cheese. The milk is kept until it becomes sour, and is turned into curds. The curds are like lumps of milk that are soft but are getting solid. These curds are put into a press and squeezed. At last it is turned into cheese.

10. Cheese is made all over the country, and a great deal of the cheese we eat comes from America.

seized  
farm-house  
sup-plied  
in-spect-or

there-fore  
India  
rub-ber  
use-ful

curds  
squeezed  
Eng-land  
countries

## THE DONKEY AND THE PACK-HORSE.



farm-er

kick-ing

par-don

mouth-ful

pleas-ant

fa-vour

dis-tance

to-geth-er

lad-en

groan-ed

bold-ness

car-ry-ing

1. 'Turn the pack-horse into the field,' said the farmer, 'and open the hay-fence for him. I shall have hard work for him to-morrow.' So he was turned out and tied to the hay-fence, which was left open that he might go in and out and eat his fill,

2. A donkey that was in the same field came up to him and said, 'Is that hay nice, friend?'

'*Friend!*' said the pack-horse, kicking up his heels, 'what do you mean? Know your place.'

3. 'I ask pardon,' said the donkey, 'but as the field is bare, I thought if you'd a mouthful of hay to spare—a rough bit that was not so pleasant—you might favour me with it.'

'Keep your distance,' said the pack-horse, again throwing up his heels. 'Do you take me for a donkey like yourself, that you think we are to eat together?'

4. Next day the pack-horse was taken from the field, and laden with sacks of wool till his back was ready to break.

'Friend!' he groaned out to the donkey, who had the boldness to look through the gate at him as he went down the road; 'could not you—should you mind—just carrying one of these sacks for me?'

5. 'Dear sir,' replied the donkey, 'I hope I know my place better, after the scolding you gave me yesterday, when I wanted a little bit of your hay. I couldn't



think of trying to share in your work, and I can assure you I've no greater wish to be a pack-horse to-day than you had yesterday to be a donkey.'

re-plied  
scold-ing

yes-ter-day  
your-self

try-ing  
as-sure

hay fence : fence round the  
hay.

eat his fill : have enough  
to eat.

wouldn't : would not.

you'd : you had.

hay : grass cut down and  
dried.

I've : I have.



## NEVER OUT OF SIGHT.



say-ing  
crowd-ed  
care-less  
wheth-er

pleas-ure's  
la-bour's  
al-ways  
child-hood

watch-ful  
sor-row-ing  
what-ev-er  
be-neath

1. I know a little saying,  
That is very, very true.  
My little boy, my little girl,  
This saying is for you.  
'Tis this, O blue and black eyes!  
And grey—so deep and bright—  
No child in all this careless world  
Is ever out of sight.

2. No matter whether field or glen,  
Or city's crowded way,  
Or pleasure's laugh, or labour's hum,  
Entice your feet to stray ;  
Some one is always watching you,  
And, whether wrong or right,  
No child in all this busy world  
Is ever out of sight.
  
3. Some one is always watching you  
And marking what you do,  
To see if all your childhood acts  
Are honest, brave, and true ;  
And, watchful more than mortal kind,  
God's angels pure and white,  
In gladness or in sorrow-ing,  
Are keeping you in sight.
  
4. Oh ! bear in mind, my little one,  
And let your mark be high !  
You do what-ever things you do  
Beneath some seeing eye.  
Oh ! bear in mind, my little one,  
And keep your good name bright ;  
No child upon this round, round earth  
Is ever out of sight.

**glen** : a narrow valley.

**hum** : a low sound.

**name bright** : free from  
blame.

**en,tice** : to lead astray.

**crowd,ed** : where a great  
many people are.

**mor,tal** : that which dies.

## TREATMENT OF ANIMALS.



self-ish  
pleas-ure  
re-quire  
cer-tain

stom-achs  
foun-tains  
muz-zles  
pre-vent

Lon-don  
jour-neys  
driv-en  
how-ev-er

1. Dumb animals need plenty of fresh air, just as people do. Horses, cows, sheep, dogs, birds, and all animals, except man, are fitted to live in the open air, and wander about in search of food.


2. Birds are often caught and shut up in cages which are so small that there is hardly

room for a bird to move, much less fly. These cages may be seen hung up in close rooms, or by windows through which the sun shines so strongly that the poor birds pant for the fresh air, and long to fly away to the cool shady woods.

3. It is very cruel and selfish to keep any animal shut up just for the pleasure of looking at it or hearing it sing.

4. In some gardens in London are to be seen monkeys and other animals, which have been brought from far-off lands. Monkeys come from where it is hot, and where they live out in the woods. A great many of them used to die at the gardens, every winter, through the cold, and some new monkey-houses were built to keep them warm. Strange to say, more monkeys died in these new houses than in the old ones. At last it was found out that so little fresh air could enter, that they were killed by breathing again and again their own breath.

5. Animals require plenty of water as well as fresh air. Some people think it is not a good thing to let a horse drink when thirsty, and they would only give it water at certain times of the day. But water



should be placed in the stables, so that the animals can drink when they want.

6. The horse, donkey, dog, and cat, need a little water often, as they have smaller stomachs for their size than we have. A donkey likes the water it drinks to be clean and pure.

7. Drinking fountains are now put up in most large towns, so that horses and other animals, if their owners will let them, can drink when they are thirsty. Every fountain ought to have a trough near the ground, so that sheep, dogs, cats, and other small animals may be able to reach the water and quench their thirst.

8. It is cruel to put muzzles on dogs, which shut their mouths and thus prevent them from drinking. If a dog must have a muzzle on, it should be made of wire and be large enough to allow of the opening of the dog's mouth.

9. Sheep, cows, and other animals are often taken long journeys, and driven along dusty roads, without having water given to them. A kind driver, however, will take care that the animals under his charge are

well looked after, and that they suffer a little as possible.

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### NEVER TELL A LIE.

1. Never tell a lie, my boy,  
     Always speak the truth ;  
     If your life you would enjoy,  
     Always speak the truth.
2. Now, as in the coming years,  
     Always speak the truth ;  
     Save your heart from bitter tears,  
     Always speak the truth.
3. Be the matter what it may,  
     Always speak the truth ;  
     If at work, or if at play,  
     Always speak the truth.
4. Never from this rule depart,  
     Always speak the truth ;  
     Fix it deeply in your heart,  
     Always speak the truth.

## THE EGG GATHERERS.



o-ver-hang  
num-bers  
peo-ple  
some-times

u-su-al  
them-selves  
broth-er  
re-ply

cried  
com-fort  
moth-er  
drop-ped

1. On some parts of the coast tall cliffs verhang the sea. In these large numbers f gulls and other sea-fowl build their nests and lay their eggs.



2. The poor people who live here are glad of these eggs to eat. To get at them they run great risks, and sometimes lose their lives, as I shall tell you.

3. Their usual plan is for one to tie a rope round his waist. The rope is then held by those above, while he swings from ledge to ledge to get at the nests.

4. One day, a father and his two sons went out to gather eggs. Having made the rope fast to a stake at the top, they let them-selves down the face of the cliff. By-and-by, when they had as many eggs as they could carry, they began to climb up the rope—the elder son first, then his brother, and their father last.

5. As they got near the top, the elder son saw that the rope was nearly cut in two by the sharp edge of a rock. He told his father the awful news.

6. ‘Will it not hold till we gain the top?’ said the father.

‘It will not hold a minute longer,’ was the reply.

‘Will it hold one of us?’ said the father.

‘That is as much as it will do,’ said the son.

‘There is then a chance for one of us. Draw your knife, and cut away below,’ cried the old man. ‘You may yet live to comfort your mother.’

7. There was no time to be lost. The son looked once more. The rope higher up was nearly snapping. So he cut it below, and his father and brother dropped down, down, hundreds of feet into the sea.

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## EXERCISES IN DICTATION.

### COMMON ERRORS.

The sun had been shining brightly. But now the wind blew. Clouds flew across the sky, and hid the blue. The ship rolled in the trough of the waves that rushed against her as if eager to seize their prey. The sailors began to pray that they might be saved.

The cook was making dough in the kitchen when a rough shaggy dog came in and stole some beef. The errand-boy ran after the dog, but tumbled over the water-trough and struck his head against a plough. ‘What a good thing it is that I am pretty tough!’ said he.

## WORK.



strain-ing  
los-ing  
a-larms  
push-ing

know-ing  
feel-ing  
tim-ber  
work-ing

bus-y  
dai-ly  
mov-ing  
hear-ing

1. Straining his tiny arms,  
Finding that work has charms,  
Losing his old alarms—  
Op'ning the lock.
2. Pushing with all his might,  
Knowing he's doing right,  
Seeing the barge in sight—  
Moving the block.

3. Feeling the timber swing,  
Hearing the hinges ring,  
Doing a novel thing—  
Working in play.
4. 'Work on, you busy boy,  
Work at your working, boy,  
Make work a daily joy—  
Work like a man.
5. 'Work as a little lad,  
Work when your heart is glad,  
Work when your heart is sad—  
Do what you can.'

**tiny** : little.  
**he's** : he is.  
**novel** : new.  
**op'ning** : opening.

**barge** : boat.  
**lock** : place in a canal  
where they lower and  
raise boats.



## THE CAMEL.



coun-tries  
grav-el  
pad-ded  
en-a-ble

dis-tan-ces  
strang-est  
sup-ply  
jour-ney

height  
ac-count  
at-tack  
shawls

1. The camel lives in countries where vast tracts of land are covered with little else but sand or gravel. No grass grows on these dry tracts, or deserts, and people may travel for days without seeing a tree or meeting with water.

2. The camel has broad, padded feet, which enable it to walk across a desert without sinking—as a horse or ass would—into the soft deep sand. It can travel, day after day, through the burning wastes for very long distances.

3. The two-humped camel is about seven

feet high from the ground to the top of its humps.

4. Perhaps the strangest thing about the camel is the way in which it can carry a supply of water for its own use. In its body there is a place for storing water, and before the animal starts on a long journey it drinks very freely and lays up a stock of water for its future use during the hot thirsty days when none can be found. It is said that the camel can travel for a week or so without water, and with little or no food.

5. The big humps on its back are formed of fat, and when the camel can get no grass, not even a thistle, but where all around is dry burning sand, it lives on the store of fat laid up in these humps.

6. Owing to the height of the camel, it has to kneel when anything is put upon its back to carry. This it does at the command of its master, and only rises when told to do so.

7. On account of its being so useful in crossing the sands, the camel has been called the '*Ship of the desert.*' When merchants travel through the deserts they do not go alone, but a number of them proceed to-

gether, so that they may help each other in case robbers should attack them. In these journeys the camels follow each other in long lines.

8. The flesh and milk of the camel are used as food. From its hair are made cloth, shawls, and brushes.

**vast** : very large.

**very freely** : takes plenty.

**burning sand** : very hot.

**merchants** : men who buy  
and sell goods.



## THE LAZY RAT.

## PART I.

piles	prom-is-ed	groan-ed
wheat	friend	fright-en-ed
mill-er	min-utes	wind-ow
suit-ed	lazily	agreed
fath-er	creak-ed	spies

1. There was once a young rat that lived in a mill with very many other rats. They had fine times among the sacks of flour and piles of wheat, and they had so much to eat that they all grew very fat.

2. Now this young rat about which our story is told was not only very fat but he was also very lazy. When the other rats asked him to come out at night with them, he would say, 'I don't know; I can't make up my mind.'

3. And if the old rats asked him to stay at home, he would still say, 'I don't know; I can't make up my mind.' He was too lazy to make up his mind even, and so as a rule he would stay at home and eat the miller's corn. That just suited him.

4. The young rat's father and mother were both dead, and an old grey rat had promised to take care of this young one.



He did his best with him, but he often shook his head gravely, and said, 'I am afraid my young friend will come to a bad end some day.'

5. One day the old rat said to him, 'Why do you shut yourself up in this way? Why don't you come and play with the other rats? If you want to have friends you must be friendly! Will you come out to-day with us?'

6. But the young rat was silent for a few minutes, and then, lazily shaking his head, he said, as usual, 'I don't know; I can't make up my mind.'

7. The old rat grew angry, but he thought he would try him once more, so he said, 'Come now, don't think you are wiser than all the rest of us. It is best for you to come and join the others. We are all going for a race round the mill, and are going to taste the new flour that has just been ground. Will you come?'

8. For a moment the young rat looked as if he would go, but he only said, 'I can't make up my mind,' and slowly walked away and shut himself up in his hole.

9. 'I don't believe he has a mind to

make up,' said the old rat, as he ran off to join the others.

10. Now the mill where these rats lived was a very old one. When the wind blew the walls shook, the sails creaked and groaned, and it sometimes seemed as if the mill would fall down and bury the rats in its ruins.

11. One night there was a very loud noise in the mill. The rats were very much frightened, and two came running in and said that some of the planks in the mill had fallen, and two windows were blown in.

12. Then the rats held a great meeting. The oldest and wisest of the rats seated themselves on the top of a sack of wheat, and all the others sat round waiting for an old one to speak. Then the oldest rat got up and said, 'It is well known among us that rats are always wise enough to leave a sinking ship. This mill is no longer safe. The first big flood will wash it away. What is to be done ?'

13. 'Let us send out three old ones to find a new home,' said another. To this all the rats agreed. When the spies came back they said they had found a barn where there was room for all, and plenty of food.

14. 'We had better go at once,' said the old rat that spoke first, and who seemed to be king.

## PART II.

1. 'Fall in, four deep,' shouted the king. Then the rats fell in, all in a long straight line, with the young ones in the middle.

2. 'Are you all willing to go?'

'Yes, all,' cried the rats.

'Are you all here?'

'All but one.'

'Who is missing?' said the king.

3. Just then his eye caught sight of young Lazybones, for that was the young rat's name. He was not in the line with the others, but standing on the stairs by himself.

'Are you not coming?' called the king.

'I don't know: I can't make up my mind.'

4. 'You will have to make up your mind very quickly,' said the king. 'We cannot wait for you. But you will be very foolish if you do not come. You know that rats always leave a falling house. Are you coming?'

5. 'I can't make up my mind,' said Lazybones. 'I don't think the mill will fall down for some time yet. It takes a very big storm to blow down a house.'

6. 'Very well, stay where you are, and it will serve you right if you are killed when the mill falls.'

Then, turning to the rats, the king shouted, 'Right turn! Forward! Quick run!'

7. Away they went in a long line, and having plenty of fun on the road. They bit each other's tails and pulled each other's ears, and played pranks all the way till they got near their new home. Then they went quietly. Some of them soon dug a hole under the wall. Through this they all passed under the floor of the barn, and here we can leave them.

8. The young rat watched them go, and said, 'Well, I can't make up my mind. Perhaps I will go, perhaps I won't. Anyhow, I have the mill all to myself.' Then he went off to his hole and fell asleep.

9. He was woke up by loud noises all around him. The wind roared louder than ever he had heard it before. The mill

shook and rocked in the wind. Boards and tiles fell down in all directions. Lazybones was now full of fear.

10. 'I wish I had gone,' he said. At last he made up his mind to follow the others. He ran out of his hole, but it was too late. Just as he reached the door the mill came down with a crash.

11. When the morning dawned some men came to look at the ruins of the old mill. They searched all over it.

12. 'It is very strange,' said one, 'that there are no dead rats to be seen, for there are always lots of rats in a mill.'

13. At last one of the men found a young rat quite dead. He was lying half in and half out of the door. It was silly Lazybones.

14. Boys and girls can learn this lesson from the story of the young rat. They can learn that when they are told which is the right thing to do, they should make up their minds *at once* and do it.

straight  
mid-dle  
stairs  
fool-ish

for-ward  
pranks  
any-how  
boards

di-rect-ions  
dawn-ed  
al-ways  
ly-ing

## THE BEAR IN SCHOOL.

hunt-ers	grieved	scream-ing
America	play-ful	weath-er
sur-prised	fa-vour-ite	scenes

1. A long time ago some hunters in America shot an old mother bear. When they went up to the dead bear they were surprised to see a young cub licking its mother. It was quite a young one, only as big as a small dog. Poor little fellow, how it grieved for its mother, and licked her face and gently moaned, as if to say, 'Why, mother, won't you wake to take care of me?'

2. The hunters were very sorry for the poor little fellow, and one of them tied a piece of rope to the cub and led him home. He was shy and fierce at first, but he soon became as tame as a dog. His little master was a schoolboy, and he called his young bear Jack.

3. Jack was as jolly and playful as a kitten. He became a great favourite with all the boys and girls, and used to go to school with his young master, who took his dinner to school with him. At noon Jack

used to have his dinner, and if he did not get it at once he would poke his nose into a boy's dinner basket and help himself.

4. But one day Jack was missing. His master hunted the woods for him, but could not find him.


5. Many years passed away. The boys and girls who knew Jack were grown up, and the old teacher had left the school.

6. One noon, when some of the boys and girls were having their dinners, a big bear walked coolly into the school, and, going up to the pegs where the dinner bags were hung, pushed his nose into one and pulled out a lump of bread.

7. The children ran screaming into the street, though the bear seemed quite harmless. They shouted as loud as they could, 'A bear in school! A bear in the school!'

8. Some of the men seized their guns and rushed off to the school. But the bear was gone, and they traced it over the snow into the woods. When they came up with it they shot it.

9. On looking closely at the bear, one of the men cried out, 'Why this is Jack, our old play-fellow! See the marks in his skin.'



So it was. Some feeling, perhaps the coldness of the weather, had brought Jack back to the scenes of his early days, and now he was shot by those who formerly had romped with him.

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### A LEAP FOR LIFE.

anchor	hor-ror	lu-rid
har-bour	ag-hast	riv-et-ed
cap-tain	pal-lid	of-fi-cer
shud-der	quiver-ing	rifle
vein	at-mos-phere	sud-den-ly

1. Old 'Ironsides' at anchor lay,  
     In the harbour of Mahon,  
     A dead calm rested on the bay,  
     The waves to sleep had gone,  
     When little Hal, the captain's son,  
     A lad both brave and good,  
     In sport, up shroud and rigging ran,  
     And on the main-truck stood.
- 2: A shudder shot through every vein,  
     All eyes were turned on high;  
     There stood the boy, with dizzy brain,  
     Between the sea and sky.  
     No hold had he above, below,  
     Alone he stood in air:  
     To that far height none dared to go,  
     No aid could reach him there.



3. We gazed,—but not a man could speak;  
     With horror all aghast,  
     In groups, with pallid brow and cheek,  
     We watched the quivering mast.  
     The atmosphere grew thick and hot,  
     And of a lurid hue,  
     As riveted unto the spot  
     Stood officers and crew.
  
4. The father came on deck; he gasped,  
     ‘Oh God! thy will be done!’  
     Then suddenly a rifle grasped,  
     And aimed it at his son:  
     ‘Jump far out, boy, into the wave—  
     Jump, or I fire,’ he said;  
     ‘That only chance thy life can save,  
     Jump! jump, boy!’ He obeyed.
  
5. He sank,—he rose,—he lived,—he moved,—  
     And for the ship struck out;  
     On board, we hailed the lad beloved,  
     With many a manly shout.  
     His father drew, in silent joy,  
     Those wet arms round his neck,—  
     Then folded to his heart his boy,  
     And fainted on the deck.

main-truck: the top of a  
 ship's mainmast.

shrouds: the ropes running

up close to the ship's  
 masts.

aghast: terrified.

pallid: pale.

## THE LIGHTHOUSE.



ear-li-est	e-lec-tric	suc-cess-full-y
a-dopt-ed	poss-i-ble	re-cent-ly
va-ri-ous	cour-age	seeth-ing
ex-pect-ed	dan-ger-ous	davits
sup-plied	ter-ri-ble	re-ceded

1. From the very earliest times, men have adopted various means of giving warning to sailors in the night that the land was near them.

2. At first fires were lighted on the hills when ships were expected home. Then

towers were built, and upon the top of them fires were lighted night after night.

3. From this men began to use oil lamps, as we do now in most of our lighthouses, though of late a few have been supplied with the electric light.

4. For hundreds of years after lighthouses were first built it was only thought possible to build them on the shore. It was a long time before anyone dared build a tower out at sea on low reefs of rocks.

5. Round our coast in hundreds of places low reefs lie a few miles from the shore, and many a noble ship with all its crew has been thrown away upon them.

6. At last a man had the courage to build a wooden lighthouse on the Eddystone rock, a most dangerous spot in the English Channel, a few miles from Plymouth.

7. This was washed away in a terrible storm. Another was built in its place, and was burnt down.

8. Then a man named Smeaton built a stone tower, that has successfully braved the tempests and waves for more than a hundred years, until it was taken down quite recently and a new tower built in its place.

9. Some years ago I paid a visit to a lighthouse lying some miles out in the Atlantic Ocean. A wild spot even in summer time, but an awful place when the storms of winter howl about it, and the waves thunder against its base and send showers of foam and spray flying over the tower.

10. This lighthouse is built on a low reef that shows itself above the water at high tide, but is quite covered at low water. The rocks extend in a curve for about a mile, and over them the water is never still. Restless, seething, foaming, they are like a cruel monster roaring for its prey.

11. Our steamer dare not approach within half a mile of the lighthouse, and when the light-keepers hoisted the signal 'Safe to land,' the lifeboat was lowered from the davits, and we were soon among the rocks.

12. When we got near the landing-place great care had to be taken, the men lying on their oars ready to pull or back water as the coxswain might order. One man stood in the bow ready to seize the first chance.

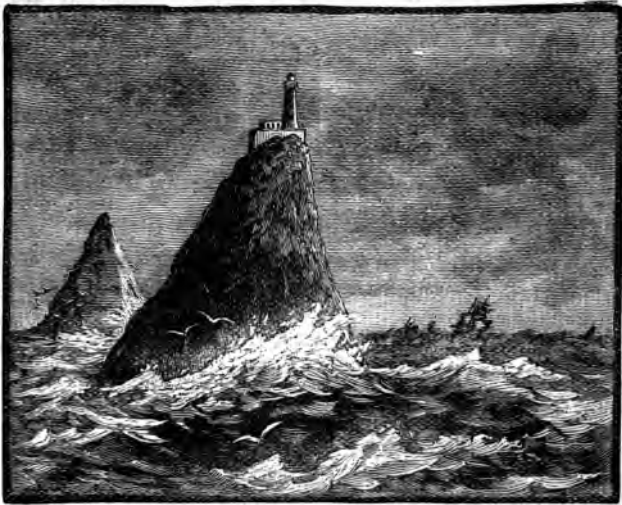
13. 'Now,' cried the coxswain. The men gave a short stroke, then backed, and the man in the bow jumped. He landed safely.

Then another and another followed, but the fourth waited too long, and as the boat was carried back by the receding swell he jumped, but too late. In he went, but was as quickly pulled out again, none the worse for a wetting.

14. Now begins the real business. The light-keepers, who are going off for their turn, have to land their bags and provisions, and those who are coming ashore have to put their things into the boat. Then there are casks of water, oil, and other stores to be landed ; and so, among shouts and splashings and wettings, the work goes on.



## VISIT TO A LIGHTHOUSE.



## PART I.

swathes	ad-van-tage	pict-ure
slip-per-y	sat-is-faction	com-fort
grooves	view	home-li-ness
im-i-ta-ting	pal-ace	shelves
nat-ural	pro-vis-ions	berths

1. While this is being done let us go up the lighthouse. Picking our way over the long swathes of slippery sea-weed, we reach the foot of the tower. There above us for some distance are small grooves in the outer

wall, and in them are placed iron bars. These are very small, and dripping with seawater, and greasy with a small green weed that clings to them.

2. We are used to climbing, but this looks very much like imitating the fly's feat of walking up a wall, without the natural advantages the fly possesses for such walks.

'Look out for the rope,' shouts someone above us, and down comes a thick rope.

3. 'This is better,' we say, but the rope quivers and shakes, for it is only fastened at the top. At last we make up our minds, and with our hearts in our mouths we start. Up we go, slowly, slowly, holding on both to steps and rope.

4. Glad enough we are to reach the top, and with what satisfaction we look down upon our friend who is only half-way up!

5. 'Here we are, safe and sound,' says a jolly-looking light-keeper, 'and now come up and view our palace.' So we mount a flight of steps which are inside the tower, and are quickly into the first room.

6. This room is just the size of the inside of the tower, and smells so strongly of oil that we are glad to get out of it. It is the

oil room, where is kept stored in tanks enough oil to last for months.

7. Above this was a room for stores and provisions. The next room was the common sitting-room. How strange a round room looked to us, the more so that it was so very small. But it is a picture of cosy comfort. There are a bright cooking range, and shelves with books, and a general air of homeliness about the whole place.

8. In the room above this are the sleeping berths, arranged like the bunks in a ship, being let into the solid wall. We peep out of the narrow slit of window, and see the rocks and sea far beneath us.

‘Many a night,’ says our friend, ‘have I lain here and felt the spray beat up against this window, high as it seems to you.’

## PART II.

lan-tern	mir-rors	prob-lem
mar-vel-lous	dif-fuse	scramb-ling
ar-range-ment	e-nor-mous	hurried
re-flect-ors	puzzle	guiding
de-vised	au-tumn	sev-er-al

1. Up one more flight of steps, and we find ourselves in the lantern room. What a



wonderful sight it is ! A marvellous arrangement of glass slides and reflectors, so devised as to throw out the light and diffuse it as much as possible.

2. There were five mirrors, which, looked at in some ways, make one's face look an enormous length. Looked at another way, your face widens out until it seems several times as wide as it is long, and wearing the most wonderful broad grin ever seen.

3. Everything is a marvel of brightness, and the puzzle is to know by what means everything is kept in such a state of brilliancy. But the keepers take the greatest pride in their lamps. One keeper would not even allow a visitor to take hold of the stair-rail, for fear of dimming its lustre. The only use of a hand-rail, in his eyes, was to be kept bright.

4. Now we are outside the lantern. Just a narrow platform, and a rail to keep us from the rocks, 140 feet beneath us. We soon found there was not much shelter at the top of a round tower with a breeze blowing.

5. 'Here,' says our guide, 'on the dark *autumn nights* we find birds of passage

lying in heaps. They see the glare of the light, and are attracted by it. They dash against the lantern, and fall stunned or killed.

6. We are glad to get inside again. But hark ! It is the whistle for all to be aboard again. Hurrying down the inside steps till we get to the outer door, we have to face the problem of getting down again.

7. It has to be done ; so holding on, and keeping our glance ever upwards, we are at last safe on the rocks.

Scrambling and slipping over the rocks, we reach the landing-place. Biding our time, a jump lands us safe in the boat.

8. Then, with hurried farewells and a parting cheer to those left behind in their lonely tower, our men bend to their oars, and we are soon safe again on board our steamboat.

9. As the lighthouse grows smaller and smaller, and at length its light comes out brightly shining over the waves, we feel that we should be proud of the men whose lives are thus spent in guiding their fellows away from the cruel rocks, and showing them the way to safety.

## THE HOLIDAY.

pleas-ant	hur-rah	blooms
June	holi-day	spray
af-ter-noon	sun-shine	breezes

1. Come out, come out for merry play,  
This is the pleasant month of June,  
And we will go this afternoon  
Over the hills and far away.
2. Hurrah! we'll have a holiday,  
And through the wood and up the glade  
We'll go, in sunshine and in shade,  
Over the hills and far away.
3. The wild rose blooms upon the spray,  
In all the sky is not a cloud,  
And merry birds are singing loud,  
Over the hills and far away.
4. Not one of us behind must stay,  
But little ones and all shall go  
Where summer breezes gently blow,  
Over the hills and far away.



## SPELLING LESSONS.

1	2	3	4
country	Britons	themselves	foolish
England	nineteen	around	closer
yellow	hundred	ditch	April
gardens	loosely	berries	lovely
flowers	beasts	acorns	twinkling
perhaps	bodies	clothing	scarce
running	basket	swords	wheat
bridges	bee-hive	charged	heard
hardly	through	knife	drawing
grown	middle	quickly	graze
5	6	7	8
tried	table	France	head
lying	delight	brought	vexed
moving	fondness	monkey	putting
piece	ill-used	placed	another
tied	kindness	breast	placing
lions	sugar	taking	jacket
likeness	pleased	London	break
painter	reason	showing	swing
however	speaking	whole	stairs
paper	health	owner	grumble
9	10	11	12
drawn	course	power	rabbits
knees	confess	sight	lambs
coming	prey	should	heights
whack	catches	mid-day	grief
rending	until	weaker	hollow
buttons	arises	built	saving
thread	strength	reach	likely
clatter	chief	ledge	search
mamma	notice	Scotland	ground
packet	hooked	Ireland	anything

13  
winter  
playing  
sooner  
river  
wonder  
signs  
danger  
efforts  
loudly  
moment

14  
joined  
smooth  
trials  
friend  
guard  
surface  
seeing  
lightly  
sight  
almost

15  
acted  
watcher  
return  
shared  
pleasure  
caught  
cheese  
crowd  
across  
together

16  
cannot  
morning  
o'clock  
service  
larger  
wages  
plenty  
sister  
remain  
fright

17  
herself  
oats  
fallen  
pulling  
lifting  
eating  
whisk  
patted  
nearly  
white

18  
people  
seemed  
pushing  
stopped  
story  
distant  
fittest  
topmast  
upward  
dreaming

19  
speck  
choice  
princely  
richest  
lordly  
cawed  
voice  
repent  
build  
lofty

20  
slumber  
sweetest  
longer  
front  
hutch  
prickly  
leaves  
claws  
digging  
making

21  
twelve  
persons  
sought  
trimming  
raised  
expect  
fellow  
entering  
giving  
*rushed*

22  
shrill  
clumsy  
letters  
noise  
without  
looking  
breath  
sneeze  
suppose  
enough

23  
straight  
window  
second  
outside  
myself  
wicked  
bolted  
cunning  
hearth  
instant

24  
driven  
treading  
fading  
darling  
anchor  
golden  
follow  
heaven  
picking  
pretty

25	26	27	28
jumping dropped turning asked right meeting banker entered paid others	years opened quite taught parents money blessed clean proved troubled	talked joiner comfort worthy rear youth strictly honest clever friendly	morning cleaner hunter thinking learnt behind tricks sackful highest bough
29	30	31	32
hidden already whither sown biting because useful duty letter anywhere	mother father brother growing drawn English swiftly allow heavy gentle	cabman closed telling grazed wanted treats handle feeding listen choose	crumbs ruled noisy doubt geese twenty fierce dressed great point
33	34	35	36
crushing forgot mistress burnt spoilt angry served woman Alfred island	fought though sitting something himself asking lazy nicely supply bringing	feeling walked shelter forgets goats unable caught provide bread comfort	feast advice dragged scarves carpets mutton candles gloves lamb number

37	38	39	40
storey spread edges eight ewe loaves course lighting building rough	barrel quicker trained Tuesday Saturday lying frozen children Sheepy instead	ready morrow ought evening touched hiding fetch guess finished John	sickness cream floats every churn mixed drain disease feared contain
41	42	43	44
field donkey sailing thought again pack-horse true blue bright wrong	laugh flown engage angels gladness sticky dumb wander except dried	Spain threw kicking cruel hearing amuse becomes knew died breathing	size thirsty starving stables sitting bushes cages freeze night possible
45	46	47	48
gulls sea-fowl gather cliff climb leaping equal chance washed baking	charms might block hinges heart tracts covered deserts water dairy-maid	camel broad wastes humped freely storing future thistle laid kneel	towels command branches crossing proceed handy robbers hair brushes account

## MULTIPLICATION TABLE.

3 times	0 = 0	4 times	0 = 0	5 times	0 = 0
3 —	1 = 3	4 —	1 = 4	5 —	1 = 5
3 —	2 = 6	4 —	2 = 8	5 —	2 = 10
3 —	3 = 9	4 —	3 = 12	5 —	3 = 15
3 —	4 = 12	4 —	4 = 16	5 —	4 = 20
3 —	5 = 15	4 —	5 = 20	5 —	5 = 25
3 —	6 = 18	4 —	6 = 24	5 —	6 = 30
3 —	7 = 21	4 —	7 = 28	5 —	7 = 35
3 —	8 = 24	4 —	8 = 32	5 —	8 = 40
3 —	9 = 27	4 —	9 = 36	5 —	9 = 45
3 —	10 = 30	4 —	10 = 40	5 —	10 = 50
3 —	11 = 33	4 —	11 = 44	5 —	11 = 55
3 —	12 = 36	4 —	12 = 48	5 —	12 = 60

6 times	0 = 0	7 times	0 = 0	8 times	0 = 0	9 times	0 = 0
6 —	1 = 6	7 —	1 = 7	8 —	1 = 8	9 —	1 = 9
6 —	2 = 12	7 —	2 = 14	8 —	2 = 16	9 —	2 = 18
6 —	3 = 18	7 —	3 = 21	8 —	3 = 24	9 —	3 = 27
6 —	4 = 24	7 —	4 = 28	8 —	4 = 32	9 —	4 = 36
6 —	5 = 30	7 —	5 = 35	8 —	5 = 40	9 —	5 = 45
6 —	6 = 36	7 —	6 = 42	8 —	6 = 48	9 —	6 = 54
6 —	7 = 42	7 —	7 = 49	8 —	7 = 56	9 —	7 = 63
6 —	8 = 48	7 —	8 = 56	8 —	8 = 64	9 —	8 = 72
6 —	9 = 54	7 —	9 = 63	8 —	9 = 72	9 —	9 = 81
6 —	10 = 60	7 —	10 = 70	8 —	10 = 80	9 —	10 = 90
6 —	11 = 66	7 —	11 = 77	8 —	11 = 88	9 —	11 = 99
6 —	12 = 72	7 —	12 = 84	8 —	12 = 96	9 —	12 = 108

10 times	0 = 0	11 times	0 = 0	12 times	0 = 0
10 —	1 = 10	11 —	1 = 11	12 —	1 = 12
10 —	2 = 20	11 —	2 = 22	12 —	2 = 24
10 —	3 = 30	11 —	3 = 33	12 —	3 = 36
10 —	4 = 40	11 —	4 = 44	12 —	4 = 48
10 —	5 = 50	11 —	5 = 55	12 —	5 = 60
10 —	6 = 60	11 —	6 = 66	12 —	6 = 72
10 —	7 = 70	11 —	7 = 77	12 —	7 = 84
10 —	8 = 80	11 —	8 = 88	12 —	8 = 96
10 —	9 = 90	11 —	9 = 99	12 —	9 = 108
10 —	10 = 100	11 —	10 = 110	12 —	10 = 120
10 —	11 = 110	11 —	11 = 121	12 —	11 = 132
10 —	12 = 120	11 —	12 = 132	12 —	12 = 144



## DIVISION TABLE.

2 in 0 = 0	3 in 0 = 0	4 in 0 = 0	5 in 0 = 0
2 — 2 = 1	3 — 3 = 1	4 — 4 = 1	5 — 5 = 1
2 — 4 = 2	3 — 6 = 2	4 — 8 = 2	5 — 10 = 2
2 — 6 = 3	3 — 9 = 3	4 — 12 = 3	5 — 15 = 3
2 — 8 = 4	3 — 12 = 4	4 — 16 = 4	5 — 20 = 4
2 — 10 = 5	3 — 15 = 5	4 — 20 = 5	5 — 25 = 5
2 — 12 = 6	3 — 18 = 6	4 — 24 = 6	5 — 30 = 6
2 — 14 = 7	3 — 21 = 7	4 — 28 = 7	5 — 35 = 7
2 — 16 = 8	3 — 24 = 8	4 — 32 = 8	5 — 40 = 8
2 — 18 = 9	3 — 27 = 9	4 — 36 = 9	5 — 45 = 9
2 — 20 = 10	3 — 30 = 10	4 — 40 = 10	5 — 50 = 10
2 — 22 = 11	3 — 33 = 11	4 — 44 = 11	5 — 55 = 11
2 — 24 = 12	3 — 36 = 12	4 — 48 = 12	5 — 60 = 12

6 in 0 = 0	7 in 0 = 0	8 in 0 = 0	9 in 0 = 0
6 — 6 = 1	7 — 7 = 1	8 — 8 = 1	9 — 9 = 1
6 — 12 = 2	7 — 14 = 2	8 — 16 = 2	9 — 18 = 2
6 — 18 = 3	7 — 21 = 3	8 — 24 = 3	9 — 27 = 3
6 — 24 = 4	7 — 28 = 4	8 — 32 = 4	9 — 36 = 4
6 — 30 = 5	7 — 35 = 5	8 — 40 = 5	9 — 45 = 5
6 — 36 = 6	7 — 42 = 6	8 — 48 = 6	9 — 54 = 6
6 — 42 = 7	7 — 49 = 7	8 — 56 = 7	9 — 63 = 7
6 — 48 = 8	7 — 56 = 8	8 — 64 = 8	9 — 72 = 8
6 — 54 = 9	7 — 63 = 9	8 — 72 = 9	9 — 81 = 9
6 — 60 = 10	7 — 70 = 10	8 — 80 = 10	9 — 90 = 10
6 — 66 = 11	7 — 77 = 11	8 — 88 = 11	9 — 99 = 11
6 — 72 = 12	7 — 84 = 12	8 — 96 = 12	9 — 108 = 12

10 in 0 = 0	11 in 0 = 0	12 in 0 = 0
10 — 10 = 1	11 — 11 = 1	12 — 12 = 1
10 — 20 = 2	11 — 22 = 2	12 — 24 = 2
10 — 30 = 3	11 — 33 = 3	12 — 36 = 3
10 — 40 = 4	11 — 44 = 4	12 — 48 = 4
10 — 50 = 5	11 — 55 = 5	12 — 60 = 5
10 — 60 = 6	11 — 66 = 6	12 — 72 = 6
10 — 70 = 7	11 — 77 = 7	12 — 84 = 7
10 — 80 = 8	11 — 88 = 8	12 — 96 = 8
10 — 90 = 9	11 — 99 = 9	12 — 108 = 9
10 — 100 = 10	11 — 110 = 10	12 — 120 = 10
10 — 110 = 11	11 — 121 = 11	12 — 132 = 11
10 — 120 = 12	11 — 132 = 12	12 — 144 = 12







